

ADDRESS
AT THE CONVOCATION OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO,
JUNE 10TH, 1892,

BY THE CHANCELLOR,
THE HON. EDWARD BLAKE, LL.D., Q.C.

IN discharging the duty now devolving on me, I begin, as is customary, with a few figures. The total numbers of students in attendance in arts, including law, matriculated, non-matriculated and occasional, are reported to me as follows: In 1888, 381; in 1889, 437; in 1890, 504; in 1891, 573; in 1892, 679; of which the number of women students is given as follows: 26 in 1888; 38 in 1889; 59 in 1890; 76 in 1891, and 130 in 1892. The medical students were: For 1890, 258; for 1891, 263, and for 1892, 283; thus giving a total number in attendance in arts, law and medicine of 762 in 1890; 835 in 1891, and 962 in 1892. The degrees conferred, excluding degrees *honoris causa*, have been 178 in 1890; 200 in 1891, and 228 in 1892, the increased numbers this year being almost wholly due to the new degree in pharmacy.

When I last addressed you, this day two years, it was my duty to give you some information as to our plans of reconstruction after the great fire. To-day I must tell you something of what has been accomplished and of what remains to be done. Our resources for the reconstruction of the main building, including the provision of a library building and a convocation hall and furniture, were, in round figures: Building insurance, \$90,000; furniture insurance, \$4,000; proportion of museum insurance for ethnological department, \$1,250; Legislative grant, \$160,000; subscriptions, including interest earned, \$62,250; interest earned, \$2,900, making a total of \$320,400. The reconstruction of the main building has cost, including furniture and ethnological museum, \$231,400. The estimated cost of the library building is \$93,000, apart from the stack, shelving and furniture, a total of \$324,400, thus leaving \$4,000 to be provided, if necessary, out of our capital; so that you will observe that these great works have been so far accomplished without appreciable reduction of our endowment. The remodelled main building gives, instead of 10 lecture rooms, 16, seating from 25 to 170 students, or a total seating capacity of 1,175. It gives 24 instead of 9 professors' rooms; 2 large examination halls in lieu of the old library and museum; a large laboratory, and other accommodation for the physical department; a suite of rooms for the women students, besides additional student and other accommodations. The building is now, in striking contrast to its former condition, well lighted and well ventilated, and it has been provided with gas as well as its own plant for electric light. No more coal oil for us! No one who compares the present with the former state can doubt the value of the changes or the success of the reconstruction. I think Mr. D. B. Dick, our architect, deserves great credit for the result of his labours, and I am disposed to say, when I contrast what we have with what we had, that the fire was a blessing in disguise. In truth, we

had in several respects outgrown the old building, and it had in several respects got behind the times.

The new library building has a fire-proof stack, with room for 120,000 volumes, when we get them; a large reading-room, seating 200 at desks or tables; seven seminary rooms and a students' conversation room, besides other apartments. Its design has been generally approved, and I believe it will be found well calculated to accomplish the great objects I described in my last address. The resources in connection with the restoration and maintenance of the library of books have been in round figures as follows: Gifts of books (about 32,500 vols.), exclusive of charges paid by University, value, \$70,700; cash subscribed and interest earned, \$22,000; insurance money, \$50,000; interest earned thereon, \$4,300; a total of \$147,000, to which is to be added, as available in the future, balance subscriptions unpaid after allowance for shrinkage, \$19,000, making a total of \$166,000; besides the usual University grants for current purchases and bindings, being balance for 1889-90, \$1,400; 1890-91, \$2,600; 1891-92, \$2,600, a total of \$6,600. There has been expended in the purchase of books \$22,000; in charges in connection with gifts and purchases and in restoration, \$6,800, making in all \$28,800, thus showing, with the addition of the gifts, \$70,700, a present value of books acquired of \$99,500. There thus remains available for binding books in stock and for future purchases \$73,000. Some of the professors are creating special funds for the purchase of books required in their own departments. It is therefore clear that we shall be able to carry out the policy of retaining a large proportion of the \$73,000 as an endowment fund, the interest of which shall be devoted to current purchases. The general result is that a very substantial improvement has taken place in the condition of the University in this department without cost to the endowment.

But the endowment had already been trenched on to the amount of about \$100,000 in connection with the biological buildings, and it became necessary to consider how the consequent loss of income might be diminished; and also how funds might be provided at lowest cost for the construction of other necessary buildings. Accordingly a scheme was devised for the issuing of University debentures, guaranteed by the Province at four per cent. interest. General assent was secured for this plan; the Government agreed to propose it; the leader of the Opposition generously forwarded the movement; and, the Legislature having passed the Act, the debentures are now under negotiation. The fall in the general rate of interest has so operated as rather to reduce the expected saving; but still it will reach, on the expenditure already made and agreed to, close on \$3,000 a year. Even with this saving, however, the draft upon the income of the University for building expenditure and maintenance must be very serious indeed. The plans for a chemical building, with adequate accommodation for occasional students under the new arrangements, and those for a students' union and gymnasium, to be used also as a temporary convocation hall, have been prepared, and both buildings will, it is hoped, if our architect's estimates of cost are measurably realized, be soon under contract. I need hardly say that the completion of these essential structures will be heartily welcomed by every friend of the University. The yet unsettled building questions are those of the residence and of the department of geology and mineralogy. Both of them present problems still unsolved and now under consideration. The authorities have agreed to recommend a free site for a University building, under University control, as a residence for women students on condition that the funds for the erection of the building should be provided by subscription. The largely increasing number of our women students renders this proposal one of great importance, and I would beg to enlist for it the sympathy and cordial co-operation of the ladies of Toronto. I think you will agree that we have made great strides towards the completion of our permanent

structural accommodations. With a view to the solution of these and other questions of equal or even greater importance it was found necessary to enter into an exhaustive examination of the resources and requirements, and of the income and expenditure of the institution, and the results of that enquiry have been now for some time before the public. It was hoped that the condition of the real estate market in Toronto would allow of a rapid realization of the choice residential property which the University is fortunate enough to possess; and in that hope an extensive but very carefully considered scheme of systematic extension of the teaching power of the University and College was adopted, with a view to correct inequalities in development which had resulted from the want of a comprehensive plan of action, and to apply our scanty resources to the best advantage and in the proper order. Considerable progress has been made in the execution of the plan; but, the hope of early sales having disappeared, it became necessary, in order to carry out, even partially, the remainder, to increase the fees, and, even with this added resource, we are deliberately straining our financial powers to the uttermost point in order to grapple with our educational necessities. I hope that, acting with what I believe to be a prudent daring, a long step will be taken towards the execution of our plan within a few weeks, but I am sorry to say that I cannot hope for its full completion, even in some of those branches which attract our greatest sympathies, for a considerable time to come. Meanwhile such arrangements should, I think, be made as will meet, if not in the fullest and most permanent, yet to the largest practicable extent the necessities of the case. We have established a standing finance committee, whose duties include the yearly investigation of the revenues and required expenditures for each year, and the framing, after consultation with the heads of the various departments, of estimates for the service of the year, to be printed and submitted in an intelligible form, with comparative statements, to the various authorities. The first year's work of the committee, which involved the inauguration of the new system, was very laborious; but it was amply recompensed by the gratifying reception of the report. Amongst the important steps taken has been the creation of a retirement fund for the officers of the institution. Certain proportions of the salaries are retained in a ratio increasing with the amount of the salary. They are invested at compound interest, and they become payable on the retirement of the officer to himself, or in case of death, to his family. As a rule, though of course with its exceptions, public officials will not save, and public trustees will not turn them out to starve. The result is that the officials keep their places, after their working powers are over, to the public loss. The compulsory savings bank is the only remedy, and this we have adopted. The Board of Trustees, whose unobtrusive but assiduous and most valuable labours in the administration of the dry details of the finance, capital and management of the property of the University are little known, and, I fear, imperfectly appreciated, have engaged in an effort to reconstruct the capital accounts of the University, and in a systematic investigation of the present condition of its endowment, funds and estates; of which the results will, I hope, be reached within a few months. Arrangements have been made under which the students from the School of Practical Science now pay fees as occasional students in arts; and an occupation rent is to be allowed for the ground where the school is erected. These changes will add materially to the revenues of the University. So large a part of our labours during the last two years has been devoted to the subjects which I have mentioned, and so much time has been given to-day to their statement that you might suppose they almost exhaust the problems with which we have had to grapple. Far from it. We have had before us many other serious questions, and have been engaged in working out many other plans deeply affecting the future of the University. We have adopted a system with reference to attendance at lectures and term

work, providing for more efficient instruction and regular attendance and study in the pass classes. Some effort has been made to bring the scheme, by anticipation, into partial operation this year; and it will be much more widely developed next year, I believe to our great advantage; though, with our increasing numbers, it may require for its full execution still further increases to the staff.

After much desultory discussion in the press and elsewhere, during which it became necessary once again to combat and confute the pretension that the non-federating universities, while remaining independent of and apart from the provincial system, had a right to claim participation in its regulation, a plan has been inaugurated for the conduct of joint departmental leaving and university matriculation examinations, through machinery, of which a joint board, appointed in equal numbers by the Minister of Education and the Senate, is the central power. Having had the honour to be chairman of this board since its creation, I can testify to the admirable spirit and good feeling evinced by my colleagues in the management of its business; and to the desire shown by each to consider every interest, and so to act as to deserve the public confidence.

The plan must still be regarded as an experiment. Further tests of its working may develop great advantages on the one hand, and considerable difficulties on the other. Its operation will be watched by all friends of our provincial educational system with interest, and with earnest hope for its permanent success. The position of the university in respect to matriculation is one of great importance, and of no less difficulty. A very interesting and instructive paper lately issued by Mr. Seath makes strong demands for an elevation and unification of the standard, and for the abolition of supplemental examinations. Time does not serve to enter into the subject to-day. I will only suggest that there may properly be a distinction between the standards for teachers' certificates and those for matriculants; at any rate, as regards certain subjects, for example, mathematics and English, in which one class asks the power at once to teach, while the other seeks only for the opportunity to learn. Mr. Seath's paper contains very interesting statistics, from which I wish to extract some results. It seems that at the last joint board matriculation examination 198 in all passed, or presented *pro tanto* certificates. Of these 151 are in attendance at the Provincial University, and 47 in the three other universities, so that Toronto has obtained over 76 per cent., and the three others under 24 per cent. of this class. It seems that 65 students have matriculated in the four universities through the back doors of their supplemental examinations. Of these, 24, or only 36 per cent. of the supplemental list, matriculated at Toronto, so that less than 17 per cent. of its 175 matriculants have passed in by its back door; while 41, or 64 per cent. of the whole supplemental list, have matriculated in the other three universities, so that nearly 46 per cent. of their 88 matriculants have passed in by their back doors. I dare say the main front doors open too freely; but of course the absolute and relative obstructions caused by the four back doors can be the subject only of conjecture. But, granting that the back door is the easy road, these figures seem to indicate a very decided superiority in the average status of the matriculants of Toronto, as compared with the other universities; and to show that, while we can very well afford to shut up our back door as soon as our friends close theirs, it might be as dangerous in practice as it would be erroneous in theory to admit them to a share in the control of the matriculation standard; and that all we can safely offer is to give, as I think we ought to give, respectful consideration and grave attention to their suggestions, and to improve the provincial system by the light of our experience and of the advice of all educational authorities. My own opinion is that we should, as soon as may be, both elevate the standard of the main matriculation examination and improve on the present system of dealing with those who fail thereat. But I think that, for obvious reasons, we should bolt the back door

before we put many more bolts on the front door, and that in dealing with our own we must consider to some extent the state of our neighbour's premises. We are, as we have been always, and as we always ought to be, far in the front in this whole matter; we may, I hope, soon go farther; but we must not go so fast or so far as to force the pace in the high schools, to place excessive barriers in the way of intending entrants, or to create overwhelming inducements on their part to seek easier access elsewhere.

We have lately extended the connections of the University by adding to our affiliated institutions the Toronto College of Music and the Ontario College of Pharmacy, and arrangements are in progress for the affiliation of Huron College at London, the theological institution of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Huron.

Some years ago the Senate was authorized to establish teaching faculties in medicine and in law. Towards the acquirement of knowledge useful in both these special departments the general teaching faculty already established afforded considerable facilities. For example, the important department of political science was by statute expressly prescribed as including jurisprudence and constitutional law, thus realizing the hope which I expressed at the Convocation of 1884 in the following words:

Our constitution, the constitution of other countries like ours, the laws which regulate the growth and progress, the rise and fall of free institutions, the general principles of justice and jurisprudence—not the technicalities and subtleties of the law which encrust and overshadow those principles, but those general doctrines with which every educated citizen should be familiar, which every legislator should know—the principles of political economy, the general principles of history, so far as they affect the growth and life of the state; are not these the A B C, the very alphabet of the statesman's career?

As to the need of some knowledge of the principles of law in a democratic community like ours, let me quote from Burke's great speech on Conciliation with America his description of the attainments of the colonists of the revolutionary era:

In no country perhaps in the world is the law so general a study. The profession itself is numerous and powerful, and in most provinces it takes the lead. The greater number of the deputies sent to the Congress were lawyers. But all who read, and most do read, endeavour to obtain some smattering in that science. I have been told by an eminent bookseller that in no branch of his business, after tracts of popular devotion, were so many books as those on the law exported to the plantations. The colonists have fallen into the way of printing them for their own use. I hear that they have sold nearly as many of Blackstone's Commentaries in America as in England. General Gage marks out this disposition very particularly in a letter on your table. He states that all the people in his Government are lawyers, or smatterers in law; and that in Boston they have been enabled, by successful chicanery, wholly to evade many parts of one of your capital penal constitutions. The smartness of debate will say that this knowledge ought to teach them more closely the rights of Legislatures, their obligations to obedience and the penalties of rebellion. All this is mighty well. But my honourable and learned friend on the floor, who condescends to mark what I say for animadversion, will disdain that ground. He has heard, as well as I, that when great honours and great emoluments do not win over this knowledge to the service of the state, it is a formidable adversary to government. If the spirit be not tamed and broken by these happy methods it is stubborn and litigious. *Abeunt studia in mores.* This study renders men acute, inquisitive, dexterous, prompt in attack, ready in defence, full of resources. In other countries the people, more simple and of less mercurial cast, judge of an ill principle in government only by an actual grievance; here they anticipate the evil and judge of the pressure of the grievance by the badness of the principle. They augur misgovernment at a distance, and sniff the approach of tyranny in every tainted breeze.

The Legislature having expressly recognized the importance as part of the general training for the educated citizen of an adequate system of instruction in the general and fundamental principles of jurisprudence and constitutional law, as distinguished from the specialties useful mainly or solely to the practitioner, the intention and attempt of the authorities has been to provide, at the expense of the University funds, only general instruction of the indicated nature. The paid duties of the professors are simply to lecture on Constitutional and International law, Roman law, Jurisprudence and the History of the English law, all subjects proper to a general course in political science and valuable parts of a general education. The staff of instructors in the special subjects hold purely honorary

offices. Some of these instructors have rendered very valuable services, others, amongst whom I am obliged to confess myself to be one, have found themselves unable to lecture. Indeed, it is not, and could not reasonably be, expected that an efficient teaching faculty in the specialties of law could be obtained by such means. The necessity for such development has since been diminished by the establishment through the Law Society of an efficient school, now in operation, with great advantage to the profession and to the public. In some of its elements the law school scheme is still necessarily tentative; and I retain the opinion, which I have often expressed, that, so far as possible, encouragement should be given to the intending student of the law to commence his career by becoming a university graduate in arts. But, except in so far as it may be found practicable by minor modifications on the part of either institution to offer such encouragement, I am of opinion that, circumstanced as we are financially and otherwise, neither can the University now hope, nor is there the pressing necessity which formerly existed, that she should attempt much more than she is undertaking in this department.

As to the teaching faculty in medicine, the University possessed, even some years ago, obvious and great advantages in connection with its general departments, for example, biology, chemistry and physics, for giving instruction of the most valuable kind at the cheapest rate to those intending to enter that noble profession. The great development during the last generation of these sciences, their increasing importance and the improved methods of practical instruction demanded, for the purposes of general education, a large increase in these facilities. To the advantages so existing and created, it was obvious that students in medicine should have free access on at least as favourable terms as those offered to any other students. And this impregnable position gave the University a commanding place, enabling her to offer, in connection with the medical faculty, substantial and indeed unrivalled inducements to intending students. The medical faculty was organized, the arrangements as to fees were made, and the addition to the biological building was put under contract, at a time when circumstances did not yet allow me to participate actively in the details of University management; and, though informed and interested as to the general principles of action, I had no cognizance of these details. But, not very long after I last addressed you, some of the University authorities were informed by members of the government that they had not, till a short time before, been made aware of the object of part of the addition to the biological building, or understood the working of the arrangements as to fees. In the course of the discussions which ensued members of the government stated that their understanding and intention, policy and pledges, as signified in their minutes and resolutions, and declared in the Assembly, were that the medical faculty should involve no substantial charge on the resources of the University of Toronto; that the addition to the biological building was proposed and sanctioned for the science departments of the University exclusively and not for the medical teaching of anatomy; and that no part of the endowment funds or fees of the University, except such as arose out of the medical teaching, were to be applied towards the expenses of the establishment of the medical faculty. They pointed, as supporting their view as to the building, to the minutes and to the resolution of the Assembly authorizing a building expenditure of \$60,000 out of the endowment for the purposes of the science departments of the University, and to the absence of any indication on the plans of an intention to provide for the medical teaching of anatomy. They pointed, as supporting their view as to the fees, to the minute of 22nd August, 1887, providing for the appointment of the medical faculty, which directs:

That the bursar of the University of Toronto shall keep, in a separate book provided for the purpose, an account of all receipts and expenditures whatsoever, having reference to the said medical faculty, and that in no case shall he certify to the payment of any expense whatever incurred on account of the said medical faculty from any of the trust funds, endowment or other fees received by the University of Toronto, except such as arise from the establishment of the medical faculty.

They declined the view that the inclusion of certain arts professors in the list of the members of the medical faculty justified the appropriation of fees for tuition in those arts subjects to medical faculty purposes. And they referred on both questions to their public pledges and declarations in the Assembly. They stated that they had lately ascertained that the addition to the biological building was designed, not wholly for the science purposes of the University, but partly for the medical teaching of anatomy; and that they had lately understood that examination and degree fees and tuition fees, for services rendered at the expense of the arts or general funds, were being put to the credit of the medical faculty funds. They added that the action taken in these matters, being in contravention of their understanding and intention, policy and pledges, could not be maintained, and that the existing arrangements must be modified; and they requested us to devise some plan under which the addition to the biological building should, according to the authority for its construction, be devoted exclusively to the science purposes of the University, and some arrangement under which the general or arts funds should receive the fees referred to. These positions of the government appeared unsatisfactory. It seemed clearly our duty to endeavour to meet their views. And, indeed, a large part of the time of some of us has been ever since devoted to efforts to disentangle, with the least possible disturbance of existing arrangements, and the least damage to the important interests concerned, the complications in which these questions had become involved. My own sympathies have always been strongly in favour of the establishment of a medical faculty on a firm and efficient footing with the immediate full use of all facilities possessed, or which could, without great added cost, be provided by the University in connection with its general departments.

My individual view has also been in favour of an effort to obtain public sanction to the application, as soon as public opinion on the one hand and our prior obligations on the other hand, would allow, of University funds, particularly towards the development of the preventive and hygienic departments of medicine, and of other scientific branches, such as anatomy and pathology, which, requiring the whole time and energy of the instructors, cannot be efficiently taught on the modest scale of payment possible in the case of men whose professional work is compatible with or helpful to their professional advancement. But I have always recognized these two positions: first, that our primary duty and our solemn obligation was to place on a fair footing of efficiency the general departments, and this all the more urgently of late in view of the precise obligations of the Confederation Act, of its effect on the University and on University College, and of the increased inadequacy of our tutorial strength to deal with our enlarged classes; and secondly, that in this, as in all other respects, we must deal frankly and loyally with the public authorities whom we serve; and must endeavour to execute the declared public will. As I said in Convocation this day eight years ago:

The graduates elect a part of the Senate; Convocation has been established with advisory powers; but the decision in all matters rests, as it rested formerly, with the responsible representatives of the Province. The Government appoints a large part of the Senate; the Government exercises its judgment as to whether the statutes of the Senate are good or not, and without the assent of the Executive Council they are inoperative. The Government appoints the professors, and controls and decides on the wisdom of the financial schemes with reference to the endowment which may be proposed from time to time. This is a public institution, maintained out of public funds for public purposes, and the essential condition upon which it can continue is that it be under the control of the responsible Government of the day through the media to which I have referred. It was the duty of those entrusted with the management of the institution loyally to carry out the public policy, loyally to endeavour to give effect to the public will, and that has been their effort.

Therefore I thought and think that, in respect to the application of University funds specially to medical education, our duty is to endeavour to mould public opinion, to press our views on the Executive, the Legislature, and the intelligent

masses of the community: to urge on them the position, which I have so often reiterated, that the professions exist for the public, not the public for the professions; and to instil into their minds the idea that it is of the greatest and most direct public importance that medical education in Ontario should be improved, and that its improvement is a fitting function of this University. Thus may we expect that by the time, I hope not very remote, at which the revival of prosperity in Toronto shall so increase our income as to enable us to act, public opinion may be ripe for the allowance of our action. Meantime I felt that it was our plain duty to endeavour so to change the arrangements as to meet the views on which the Executive and Legislature had given the University power to act, and in pursuance of which they understood it had been acting. This was a work of much difficulty and complication; but I rejoice to say that it has been accomplished. The examination and degree fees have been restored to the general funds, the medical faculty, as was right, receiving the established payments for such examinations as are conducted by members of the staff. Long continued attempts at other and less satisfactory solutions having failed, a comprehensive scheme of tuition fees has been adopted for all occasional students, based on the numbers of lectures taken, and having just relation to the very moderate fees charged for general or matriculated students. This scheme applies to all medical students, from whatever quarter, taking arts subjects; and under it the general funds, which are to provide the accommodation and the instruction, will be credited with the receipts. As to the biological building addition, it was found impossible to adapt it satisfactorily to the permanent purposes of either the chemical or the geological departments; and, indeed, I was very anxious to reach some solution less disturbing than such a change. We eventually succeeded in arranging that a substantial rental and the expenses of maintenance and repairs should be paid out of the medical faculty funds for the accommodation they are receiving in this building, for exclusively medical teaching purposes; thus, as nearly as possible under the circumstances, conforming to the policy and understanding of the public authorities. I need not say that these changes involved a considerable draft on the resources of the medical faculty, and intensified the difficulties of that thorough reorganization of the faculty which we have within a few weeks been called upon to effect. But, after careful and prolonged consideration, we have been able to devise a plan which has received the all but unanimous approval of the Senate, which has been cordially accepted by the great bulk of the faculty, and which I am confident has given enormous additional strength and efficiency to the department. Our best thanks are due to the many eminent practitioners, who have agreed, in order to secure this result, to accept scanty and inadequate compensations; and who, animated by a spirit and devotion deserving of the highest praise, have determined to make the medical faculty of the University of Toronto a great and triumphant success. The future is theirs! With the unrivalled advantages in the scientific departments which we have in possession and prospect; with the admirable system we have just inaugurated; with our excellent accommodation for anatomical and pathological teaching; with the strong staff now in charge; with those improved arrangements for clinical facilities at the hospital which we have been labouring, I hope successfully, to effect, I am confident that we shall still further swell our already increasing numbers, still further demonstrate our absolute and relative efficiency, and make the medical faculty of the University one of the greatest blessings to the Province and one of the strongest props to the institution. Its success will measurably improve the emoluments of those of its teachers who are practitioners; and its proved advantages will give in the future another title to call for fair recognition of any claim for such assistance as I have indicated, to whatever extent the replenished condition of our treasury may at the time allow.

I close by some allusion to one of the greatest events in the life of the University, the practical consummation of confederation with Victoria, and its approaching establishment in the park as a federating college. I am sure we all heartily congratulate Victoria on the rapid progress of her stately pile, and wish her a long and prosperous sojourn in her chosen home. I am ready to repeat to-day these words, which I used in 1887, as to the scheme, then yet under negotiation :

For myself, while I have always been free to express my opinions, and to press for the adoption of the absolute best, I have always been willing to agree to the best practicable plan if that should be an improvement on the existing condition of things, even though it might fall short of the absolute best. We must first secure a basis on which all will be willing loyally to work ; and, secondly, a basis which possesses the elements of stability combined with reasonable elasticity. Thirdly, in that basis proper strength must be given to those elements both of Victoria and of the state college in which there is to be separate life and action. Each must have security for its work and life going on free and untrammelled, the state supplying the substantial needs of the state college, and the church those of the church college. Fourthly, the basis must involve a large measure and sphere of common action which shall give to the whole the cohesive force calculated to result in strength and co-operation, harmony and progress. Fifthly, the basis should give adequate financial strength to the state institution in all its parts, both to the professoriate and to the college staff. No man can possibly, with honesty, accept this plan with destructive intent. If a denominational college, such as Victoria, prefer to maintain a considerable staff and do a considerable part of the arts teaching under her own roof, we may differ in opinion as to the wisdom of that condition, but we must bow to the decision ; and, if we do bow to the decision, we must accept the plan with that element of the plan, honestly determining that, so far as we are concerned, it shall succeed if our good-will may help it on. We cannot honestly accept, and then try to weaken this part of the plan, either by removing to the University professoriate the subjects stipulated to be taught in the college, or, on the other hand, by depriving Victoria of the advantages of the aid given by the large number of subjects to be taught in the University professoriate. For my part I have always been anxious to see as many subjects as possible taught by the University professoriate and so taught in common, and to provide that no changes shall be made save such as, by general assent, experience shall have shown to be for the common good ; and I would deprecate some expressions which have been used and which seem to indicate an apprehension that an effort might be made to hinder the successful discharge by the denominational college of the function which it is to retain. No such effort can honestly be made. Her success will depend upon the strength of her staff, as the success of University College will depend upon the strength of its staff. The financial arrangements to give that strength to University College staff are of prime importance and the Government must look to them. The financial arrangements of Victoria College are her own concern, and we can only say that we wish her well. I shall heartily rejoice if, by the ultimate success of this plan, we may create both a formal and substantial relation between the Provincial University and a great denomination, and thus add strength to the cause of higher education by the adoption, on national and absolutely unsectarian principles, of a united and concentrated effort to produce the best results.

You know that I have never disguised the opinion that the plan, like most plans for remodelling or adding to old structures, shows in some parts signs of compromise and of adjustment to existing facts, falls short in some respects of an ideal symmetry, and, indeed, is in some minor aspects hardly capable of logical defence. But it was the best that could be agreed on ; it has been loyally accepted ; and I believe it will be loyally worked in a spirit of mutual confidence and good-will. So worked it will succeed ! In accordance with the basis I have quoted, statutory provision was made for securing to University College what was thought to be an adequate staff, and she was given an independent existence within her sphere of the same nature as that which Victoria retains within hers. Those who are deeply interested in University College have up to this time submitted in the general interest to the postponement of her statutory and most obviously urgent claims to additional professorial strength. We have even supported increases to the fees for college students, the proceeds whereof will go temporarily to meet University demands.

The financial straits of the institution may even yet compel a considerable further delay in the complete performance of our obligation to University College. But it is now, or, at any rate, in a very few weeks, I believe, it will become the very first claim on any increase in our available resources. I am strongly of opinion that, pending satisfaction, such increase should be largely devoted to partial performance. As regards the great work to be done for the general good

by the University professoriate ; as regards the exalted mission to be accomplished by the reconstituted and enlarged senate, for the cause of higher education, in the common interest of the various faculties of arts, medicine and law, in completion of the educational work of University and Victoria federated colleges, and in furtherance of the interests of those numerous affiliated institutions which now cluster round this centre—as to the execution of that work, and the accomplishment of that mission, I confront the future, not indeed without some feelings of anxiety, but yet with a comfortable sense of confidence and hope. It is true that the senate is not now an almost homogeneous body, of moderate size, practically representing one single interest, uncomplicated by possibly conflicting claims, and pursuing undisturbed one single end. It has become a large, and, comparatively speaking, perhaps, an unwieldy assemblage, drawn from many different local centres, each with special interests of its own. What then is to be done ? Necessarily meeting but seldom, and for a few hours only at a time, its more important and difficult business must be largely prepared by painstaking committees, sometimes circulating in advance carefully framed printed reports, which may thus receive, before action, the consideration of individual senators. The duties of its executive and presiding officers and of its leading members, which in my judgment include the obligation, so far as in them lies, to secure to the senate the opportunity of fairly considering, fully debating, and intelligently deciding on all questions of University policy within its rightful sphere of action or advice, have obviously become even more onerous and responsible than formerly. It may be feared in some quarters that mature deliberation, stable action and orderly progress are impossible under our new conditions ; it may be suggested that to avoid factious courses or opposition, to accomplish with rapidity desired ends, or to escape from apprehended difficulties, it is necessary to limit in practice the effective powers of the senate, or to proceed by some crooked or covered way, rather than by the straight and public road. Not thus can we hope to reach a satisfactory issue ! Better far to move even slowly by the one path than quickly by the other ! But I do not share these apprehensions. I have ever believed, and experience has confirmed the view, that to confidence freely given, to conclusions fully thought out, frankly presented and fairly argued, the senate will accord a just and even a generous consideration and response, and that truth and reason will there as elsewhere in due time prevail. One thing is needful ; that we should meet and act in a spirit of fervent and ever-increasing loyalty to the great University, and of earnest and ever-growing determination to guard her interests and maintain her cause ; that the steady, constant and centripetal forces of love and zeal for the University should prove stronger than the partial, fluctuating and centrifugal movements of local or personal interest and affection ; that we should rise to the height of the great place we fill, and serve to the uttermost the noble cause we represent. To that end I plead for harmony and good-will, for cordial concert and co-operation between our several related faculties and institutions and our various bodies of graduates and undergraduates. Each duly maintaining the special interests of which it feels itself the guardian, let each give generous consideration to the claims of others ; above all let each remember that it is a part of a whole, that the whole is greater than the part, and that the general interest should in all things prevail. Animated by this spirit we may, aye and we shall, overcome all difficulties, remove all defects, dissipate all doubts, and cause an honourable and worthy past to culminate in a yet more glorious and transcendent future. May these things be !